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Legislators express concern over proposed closure of Michigan Youth Correctional Facility in Baldwin

Sens. McManus and Cropsey, Rep. Hansen to tour facility Feb. 11

LANSING – State Sens. Michelle McManus and Alan Cropsey and Rep. Geoff Hansen issued the following statements regarding the governor’s proposal to close the Michigan Youth Correctional Facility in Baldwin:

“Governor Granholm speaks about creating jobs today and creating jobs tomorrow, yet she is yanking the economic rug out from under the Village of Baldwin and the citizens of Lake County, McManus said. “By proposing to close the Michigan Youth Correctional Facility, the governor’s ‘jobs today, jobs tomorrow’ plan is rapidly turning into ‘jobs today, gone tomorrow.’”

“It’s amazing to me that the governor would have this facility closed without coming forward with a proposal to save the jobs of Lake County,” said Cropsey, chair of the Senate Judiciary Committee. “We will do all we can to let the administration know the people of Lake County are hurting and need respect.”

“The information I’ve gathered so far indicates the youth corrections facility costs almost \$3,000 a year less per prisoner than the state pays at its other facilities,” Hansen said. “I don’t think the state can afford to make this decision in haste. We owe it to the local community, the state’s taxpayers and even the people using this program to give the program a thorough review.”

McManus, R-Lake Leelanau, Cropsey, R-DeWitt, and Hansen, R-Hart, will join Dennis Cawthorne and officials from Lake County and the correctional facility on a tour of the facility Friday, Feb. 11. Members of the media are encouraged to attend.

When: 11 a.m.
Friday, Feb. 11

Where: Michigan Youth Correctional Facility
1805 W. 32nd St.
Baldwin

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